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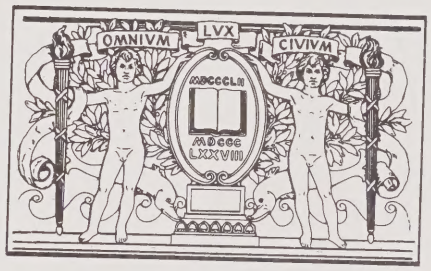

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BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN HARBORPARK NEIGHBORHOODS

A PROFILE

Jane Van Buren

Boston Redevelopment Authority
Research Department

January 1985

Raymond L. Flynn, Mayor
City of Boston

Stephen Coyle, Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority

Alexander Ganz
Research Director

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R/4/23/85

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HARBOR AREA
BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Boston Public School System is currently comprised of 11.1 million square feet, or approximately 130 buildings. Schools are either Examination Schools--where enrollment is determined by examination; Magnet Schools where enrollment is open to all students in the city, or District Schools where enrollment is based on residence in the district. Although Magnet and Examination Schools are located throughout the city, together they compose School District 9. The Magnet District, with each school offering a specific program theme, was part of the 1974 federal court desegregation order signed to attract a desegregated student body at the schools. Thirty percent of the school system's students are in this Magnet School District. The racial makeup of District 9, in the 1982-83 school year, was 47 percent black, 32 percent white, 12 percent Hispanic, 7 percent Asian and 1 percent American Indian.

The Harborpark neighborhoods are included in School Districts 5,6,7 and 8, with approximately 44 schools located in relative proximity to the harbor water. District 5, Dorchester, consists of two high schools, three middle schools and twelve elementary schools. The student population for 1982-83 was 8,323, with 806 at the kindergarten level, 3,958 at the elementary level, 2,037 at the middle and 1,522 at the high school level. The makeup of the District by race was 70 percent black, 16 percent white, 13 percent Hispanic and less than 1 percent American Indian. This is the second largest district and offers a variety of educational settings from the small traditional school to the large open space school.

School District 6, Columbia Point, South Boston and Roxbury, consists of one comprehensive high school, three middle schools and ten elementary schools. The district's 1982-83 population was 5,292 with 497 at the kindergarten level, 2,375 at the elementary level, 1,513 at the middle and 907 at the high school level. The makeup of the district by race was 39 percent black, 39 percent white, 18 percent Hispanic, 3 percent Asian and 1 percent American Indian. According to the "Report of the Boston Public Schools to the Community," District 6 experienced its most harmonious year (1982-83) in the past decade in terms of safety and security.

School District 7 consists of one comprehensive high school, three middle schools, and six elementary schools. The district's 1982-83 student population, spread out over Beacon Hill, the North End, Charlestown, Chinatown, Roxbury and the South End, was 4,814. Four hundred and fifty were at the kindergarten level, 2,262 at the elementary level, 1,116 at the middle level, and 940 at the high school level. District 7 schools service a very heterogeneous and cosmopolitan student population, with 38 percent black, 17 percent white, 21 percent Hispanic, 24 percent Asian and 6 American Indian students.

School District 8, East Boston, consists of one comprehensive high school, two middle schools and six elementary schools. The district's 1982-83 student population was 3,110 with 248 at the kindergarten level, 1,034 at the elementary level, 794 at the middle school level and 1,034 at the high school level. Although the district was not included in the busing component of the 1974 federal court desegregation order, it is subject to the same student assignment and transfer as well as the same staffing regulations as other districts. East Boston is both racially

and geographically isolated, but has a growing Hispanic and South East Asian population. Even so, the racial breakdown of District 8 during 1982-83 was 10 percent black, 81 percent white, 6 percent Hispanic, 2 percent Asian and 1 percent American Indian.

The Department of Public Facilities, from 1982-1989, has spent and/or estimates spending approximately $13.3 million on public schools in Harborpark areas. Roughly $5.3 million in Columbia Point and Dorchester, $2.3 million in South Boston, $490 thousand for the two schools located in the North End, $4.3 million in East Boston, and $923 thousand in Charlestown. In addition, the Massachusetts Division of Capital Planning and Operation anticipates a total investment of $30.9 million on development and capital improvements at Bunker Hill Community College.

In January 1984 it was clear that neither the Department of Public Facilities, nor the School Department, had a capital allocation planning system available to it to address the problem of ongoing capital maintenance and repair. A report on school maintenance and repairs published by the School Department estimated, in January 1984, that $12.5-$19.9 million is required in annual maintenance expenses, and approximately $45 million is estimated as needed for immediately necessary repairs. The annual operating budget at the disposition of the School Department has been inadequate over past years to deal with alterations and repairs. As a result, there is a quiet crisis brewing within the Boston Public School System related directly to the unavailability of even a marginally adequate funding system for the maintenance of school facilities.

Chapter 515, or the school building assistance program, was passed in the Massachusetts Legislative Acts of 1983 and has helped liberalize the process of obtaining funds, and under the law more projects are eligible for reimbursement by the State Department of Education. This should improve the cash flow back to municipalities. The problem of a deteriorating school physical plant is severe and quantifiable, yet in Boston some funding options and strategies do exist. They need to be explored and taken advantage of.

Since 1980 several harbor area schools have been converted, or are in the process of being converted into rental or condominium dwelling units. In Charlestown, the old Charlestown High School is scheduled for construction that will transform the building into 45 condominium units. In East Boston the Philip H. Sheridan School now houses 24 condo units and the Chapman School will be converted into 25 low-income units. The Joseph Tuckerman School and the Bigelow School, both in South Boston, have been converted to provide 64 market rate condominiums. The John Boyle O'Reilly School, also in South Boston, is scheduled for conversion to 30 elderly rental units. In Dorchester, the Eileen Richards School, the Rochambeau School and the John Lothrop Motley School have been converted into dwelling units. The Boston Latin Academy is scheduled to become 58 elderly low-income units.

Recently, the Boston School Committee decided to close five schools, including the Michelangelo School in the North End and the Cheverus School in East Boston. The Boston Public Facilities Commission becomes responsible for the schools once they have been declared surplus property by the School Committee. The ultimate decision as to future use of the buildings is made by the Public Facilities Commission,

although there will be public participation in the decision-making process. Portions of the buildings could be rented by the city or the buildings could be sold, but either way, the preference of the Commission is for the schools to be added to the tax base of the city.

DISTRICT 5
Dorchester

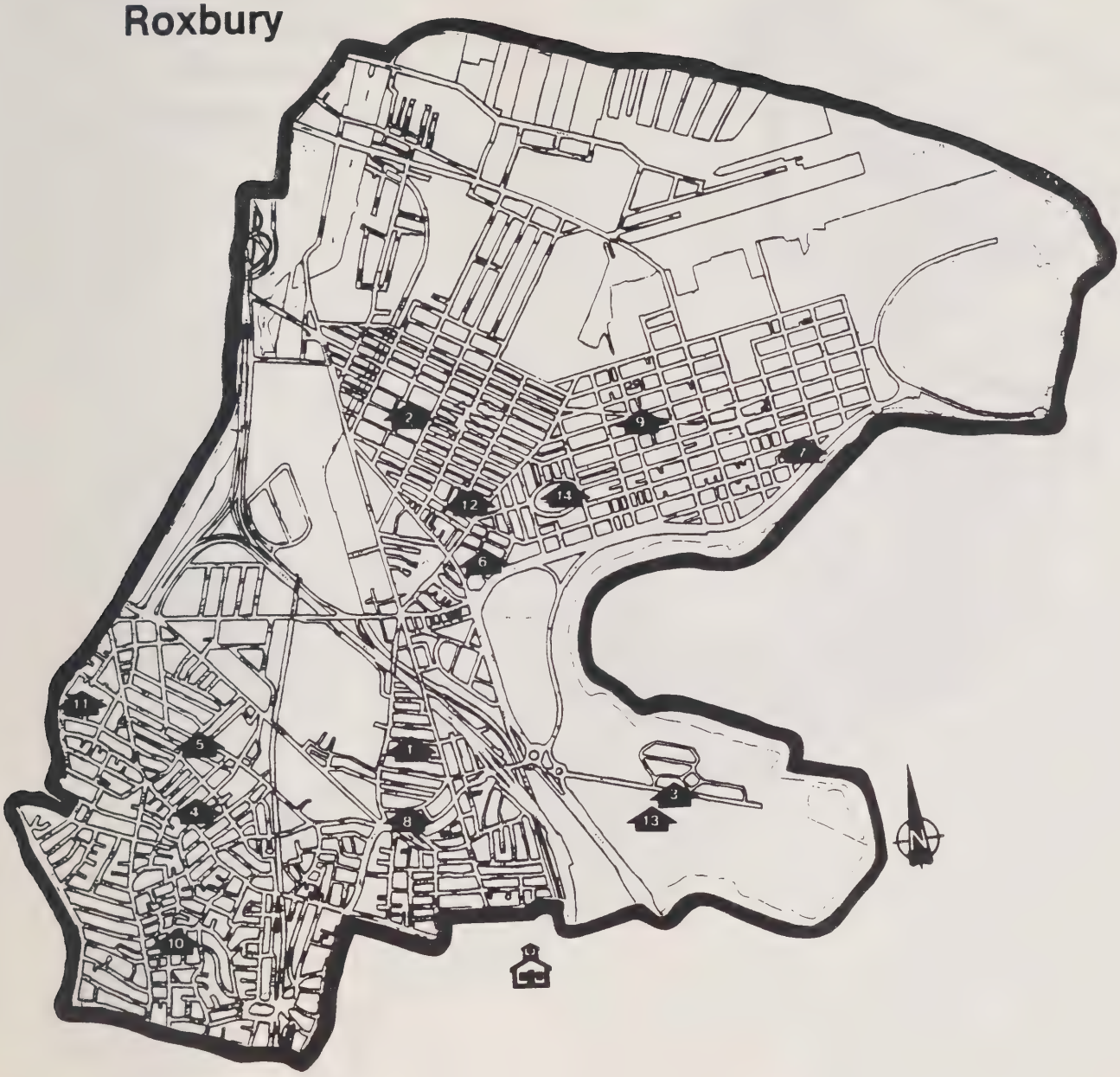
1. DICKERMAN
2. ENDICOTT
3. EVERETT
4. FIFIELD
5. S. GREENWOOD
6. HOLLAND
7. KENNY
8. MARSHALL
9. MATHER
10. MURPHY
11. O'HEARN
12. STONE
13. CLEVELAND
14. HOLMES
15. WOODROW WILSON
16. JEREMIAH BURKE
17. DORCHESTER HIGH

COMMUNITY DISTRICT OFFICE

Mildred B. Griffith, Community Superintendent
Leen School
65 Bailey Street
Dorchester, MA 02124 436-2139

DISTRICT 6

Columbia Point
South Boston
Roxbury



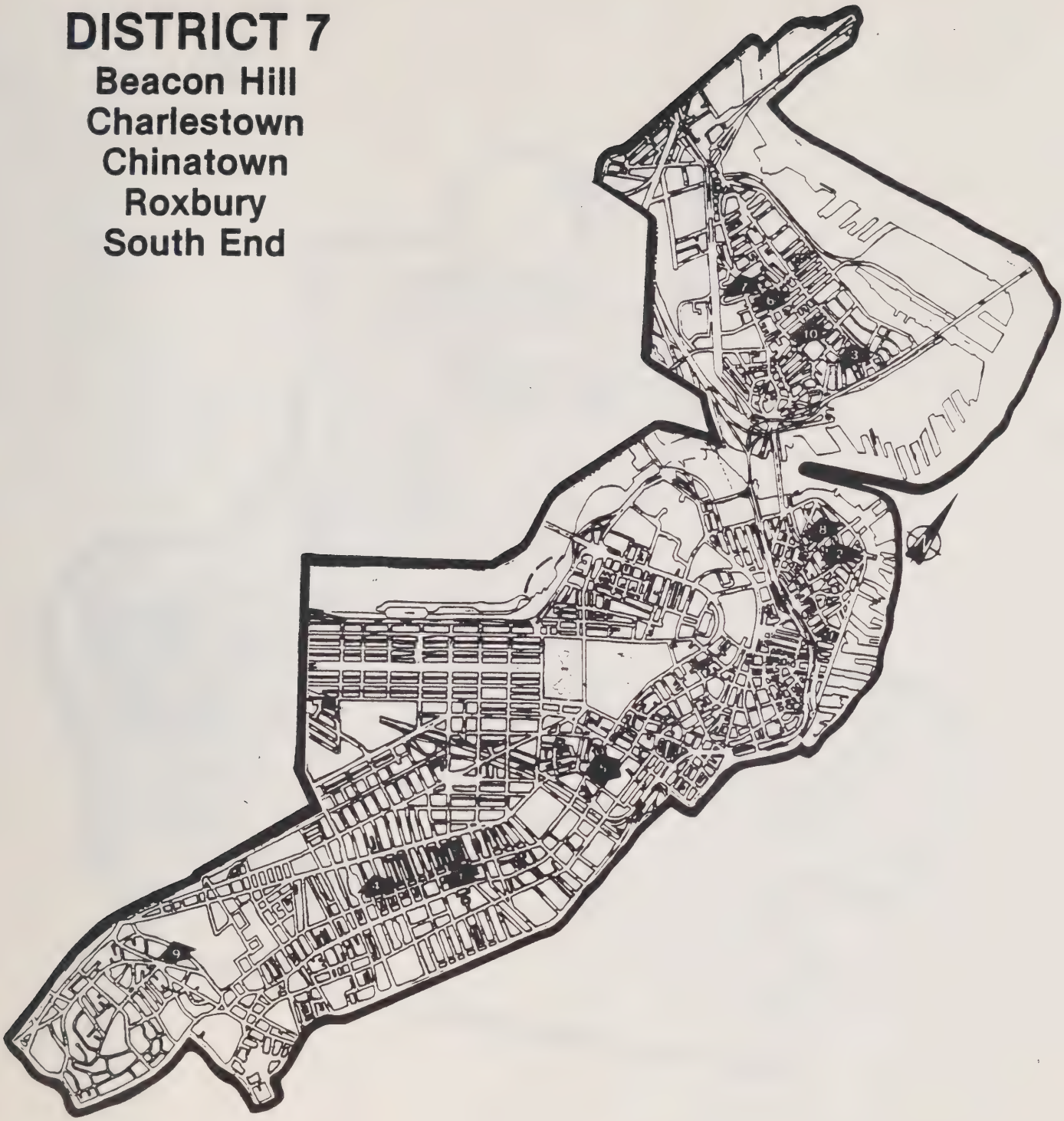
1. CLAP
2. CONDON
3. DEVER
4. EMERSON
5. MASON
6. PERKINS
7. PERRY
8. RUSSELL
9. TYNAN
10. WINTHROP
11. DEARBORN
12. GAVIN
13. McCORMACK
14. SOUTH BOSTON HIGH

COMMUNITY DISTRICT OFFICE

Joseph McDonough, Community Superintendent
Campbell Resource Center
1216 Dorchester Avenue
Dorchester, Massachusetts 02125 282-3440

DISTRICT 7

Beacon Hill
Charlestown
Chinatown
Roxbury
South End



COMMUNITY DISTRICT OFFICE

John McGourty, Community Superintendent
Quincy Elementary School
885 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111 426-5552

1. BLACKSTONE
2. ELIOT
3. HARVARD-KENT
4. HURLEY
5. QUINCY
6. WARREN-PRESCOTT
7. EDWARDS
8. MICHELANGELO
9. TIMILTY
10. CHARLESTOWN HIGH

DISTRICT 8
East Boston

COMMUNITY DISTRICT OFFICE

Peter Ingeneri, Community Superintendent
East Boston High School
86 White Street
East Boston, MA 02128 569-2959

1. ADAMS
2. ALIGHIERI
3. BRADLEY
4. P. KENNEDY
5. O'DONNELL
6. OTIS
7. BARNES
8. CHEVERUS
9. EAST BOSTON HIGH

DISTRICT 9
City Wide

1. CURLEY
2. GUILD
3. HALE
4. HALEY
5. HENNIGAN
6. HERNANDEZ
7. JACKSON-MANN
8. McKAY
9. OHRENBERGER
10. TROTTER
11. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
12. MACKEY
13. WHEATLEY
14. BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL
15. BOSTON LATIN ACADEMY
16. BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL
17. BOSTON TECHNICAL
18. COPLEY SQUARE HIGH
19. ENGLISH HIGH
20. MADISON PARK HIGH
21. MARIO UMANA HARBOR SCHOOL OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

COMMUNITY DISTRICT OFFICE

Roger Beattie, Community Superintendent
Madison Park High School
Madison Park High School, Bld. # 1
Roxbury, MA 02119 442-1396

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 5,
DORCHESTER
($000s)

Schools	Maintenance/ Repair	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	Unscheduled	Total
Dorchester High School	General Renovation			$700	$570						$1,270
Oliver Wendall Holmes Middle School	Capital Improvements									$357	357
Woodrow Wilson Middle School	New Sanitation Facility								$225	404	628
Emily A. Fifield	New Roof & Building Code Violations	$25	$24			$26		$55		96	227
John P. Holland	HUAC Modification				42					30	72
Thomas J. Kenney	Capital Improvements				40					579	619
Mather Elementary	New Heating & Windows						$220			236	456
Richard J. Murphy	Capital Improvements			33							33
Patrick O'Hearn	Capital Improvements				300					40	340
Lucy Stone	Capital Improvements									212	212
Edward Everett	Capital Improvements				82						82
John Marshall	Capital Improvements	47	48						-		95
Rafael Hernandez*	Capital Improvements								-	6	6
Total Districts		$72	$73	$733	$1,034	$26	$220	$55	$225	$1,959	$4,397

* Magnet School, District 9.

Source: Compiled from Public Facilities Records by BRA Research, Infrastructure File Project.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 6,
COLUMBIA POINT AND SOUTH BOSTON ONLY
($000s)

Schools	Maintenance/ Repair	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	Unscheduled	Total
Columbia Point											
John W. McCormack Middle School	Capital Improvements				$20						$20
Roger Clapp Elementary	Capital Improvements									$155	155
Paul H. Dever	Capital Improvements				14					171	185
Ralph W. Emerson	Capital Improvements				56					126	
William E. Russell	Building Code Violations--New Lights & Windows					$33		$304			337
Total Columbia Point					$90	$33		$304		$452	$879
South Boston											
South Boston High School	Capital Improvements				$833					$160	$993
Patrick F. Gavin Middle School	New Heating & Windows & Sanitary Facilities				500	152			$225	51	928
James F. Condon	Capital Improvements		$12	$13							25
Michael J. Perkins	Capital Improvements									211	211
Oliver H. Perry	Capital Improvements									143	143
Total South Boston			$12	$13	$1,333	$152			$225	$565	$2,300

Source: Compiled from Public Facilities Records by BRA Research, Infrastructure File Project.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 8,
EAST BOSTON
($000s)

Schools	Maintenance/ Repair	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	Unscheduled	Total
East Boston High School	Replace windows & plaster	$108	$108			$75					$291
Joseph H. Barnes Middle School	Capital Improvements				$18					$1,479	1,497
John Chevrus Middle School	Capital Improvements				98					183	281
Samuel Adams Elementary	Capital Improvements									328	328
Dante Alighieri	Capital Improvements									135	135
Manassah E. Bradley	New lights							$190			190
Patrick Kennedy	Capital Improvements	32	33							200	165
Hugh. R. O'Donnel	New roof & lights					48		128		77	253
James Otis	Capital Improvements									273	273
Mario Umana Harbor School*	New hot water system				40	50				140	230
Curtis Guild* Elementary	Capital Improvements									140	140
Donald McKay* Elementary	New roof & controls					108			$32	280	420
Total		$140	$141		$156	$281		$318	$32	$3,235	$4,303

* District 9--Magnet Schools.

Source: Compiled from Public Facilities Records by BRA Research, Infrastructure File Project.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 7,
NORTH END AND CHARLESTOWN ONLY
($000s)

Schools	Maintenance/ Repair	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	Unscheduled	Total
Charlestown											
Charlestown High School	Capital Improvements				$20					$130	$150
Charles E. Edward Middle School	Capital Improvements				140					452	592
Kent Elementary	Capital Improvements			$28						74	102
Warren-Prescott Elementary	Improvements & new								$43	23	69
Bunker Hill Community College*	Parking facility improvements		$430								430
Bunker Hill Community College*	New playing fields			2,600	8,400						11,000
Bunker Hill Community College*	Capital Improvements				340						340
Bunker Hill Community College*	New garage				30	$300					330
Bunker Hill Community College*	Laboratory building					750	$6,000	$4,000			10,750
Bunker Hill Community College*	New auditorium						565	4,500	3,000		8,065
Total Charlestown			$430	$2,628	$8,930	$1,050	$6,565	$8,500	$3,046	$679	$31,838
North End											
Michelangelo Middle School	Capital Improvements									$360	$360
Eliot Elementary	Capital Improvements				$20					110	130
Total North End					$20					$470	$490

* State-funded--not a public school.

Source: Compiled from Public Facilities Records by BRA Research, Infrastructure File Project.